

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KATHMA 00682 151140Z

17

ACTION NEA-13

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-20 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 FRB-02

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 TRSE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12 SPC-03

CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 SAM-01 NSC-10 SS-20

STR-08 CEA-02 DRC-01 /132 W
----- 044179

R 151105Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7576

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE KATHMANDU 0682

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, ETRN, NP

SUBJECT: RESURFACING TRIBHUVAN AIRPORT RUNWAY

REF: KATHMANDU 5178 DEC 1973

1. RUNWAY OF KATHMANDU'S TRIBHUVAN AIRPORT SCHEDULED FOR RESURFACING AUTUMN '74. GON, DEEPLY CONCERNED THAT RESURFACING NOT INTERFERE WITH TOURISM AND WITH CORONATION KING BIRENDRA SCHEDULED FOR FEBRUARY 1974, HAS QUERIED USAID NEPAL ABOUT POSSIBILITY OBTAINING PORTABLE RUNWAYS FROM USG, SO THAT TRIBHUVAN AIRPORT TRAFFIC CAN CONTINUE ON NEAR NORMAL BASIS.

2. WE BELIEVE GON REQUIREMENTS COULD BE MET BY APPROXIMATELY 1500 FT. OF M8 PERFORATED MAT (OR SUITABLE ALTERNATIVE), WITH WIDTH OF 150 FEET. MATS SHOULD ARRIVE IN NEPAL BY LATE OCTOBER '74, AND WOULD BE NEEDED FOR ABOUT ONE YEAR. (M8 MAT IS DESCRIBED IN PARAGRAPH 320 OF DEPT. ARMY TECHNICAL MANUAL TM5-337 OF FEBRUARY 1966.)

3. WE BELIEVE THERE IS POSSIBILITY THAT MILITARY AGENCIES MAY HAVE SURPLUS MATS, POSSIBLY IN ASIA, THAT COULD BE MADE

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PAGE 02 KATHMA 00682 151140Z

AVAILABLE TO GON, ON GRANT, RENTAL, OR PURCHASE BASIS.
GIVEN UPCOMING CORONATION AND IMPORTANCE OF TOURISM TO

NEPAL, WE WOULD LIKE TO BE HELPFUL. WE WOULD THEREFORE
APPRECIATE DEPT INVESTIGATING POSSIBILITIES FOR USG
ASSISTANCE IN THIS MATTER AND ADVISING US OF FINDINGS AS
SOON AS POSSIBLE. FYI: USAID UNLIKELY HAVE FUNDS AVAILABLE
THIS PURPOSE. FORESEEABLE FUNDS ALREADY PROGRAMMED
FOR OTHER ACTIVITIES, AND AIRPORT RENOVATION DOES NOT MEET
CURRENT AID PROGRAM CRITERIA. END FYI.
CARGO

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CONSTRUCTION, MILITARY EQUIPMENT, AIRPORTS, FOREIGN ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 FEB 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MorefiRH
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974KATHMA00682
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: KATHMANDU
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740230/aaaabbnv.tel
Line Count: 69
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: KATHMANDU 5178 DEC 1973
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MorefiRH
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22 AUG 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <22 AUG 2002 by WorrelSW>; APPROVED <04-Sep-2002 by MorefiRH>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: RESURFACING TRIBHUVAN AIRPORT RUNWAY
TAGS: EAID, ETRN, NP
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005